

VIRGIN BIRTH MIRACLE

SON BORN IN STABLE HAILED AS PRINCE, WORLD LEADER

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NO ROOM AT THE INN . . . It was in a manger similar to this scene fronting the Foursquare Church in Torrance that the Christchild was born 1982 years ago in Bethlehem, because there was "no room at the inn."

City Hails Child As 'Son of God'

BETHLEHEM, Dec. 25 (TH)—A young virgin woman today gave birth to a baby boy in this city.

The miraculous event was immediately proclaimed by scholars as the fulfillment of an ancient Jewish prophecy.

It was prophesied many years ago that the "Son of God" would some day be born to a virgin, records of religious men revealed. The child would be the "New King" whose teachings and wisdom would bring peace to all mankind.

Reports say the divine birth took place in a stable behind the inn here.

Mother of the infant is Mary, a Nazarene. Her husband, Joseph, a carpenter, substantiates her report of the Immaculate Conception.

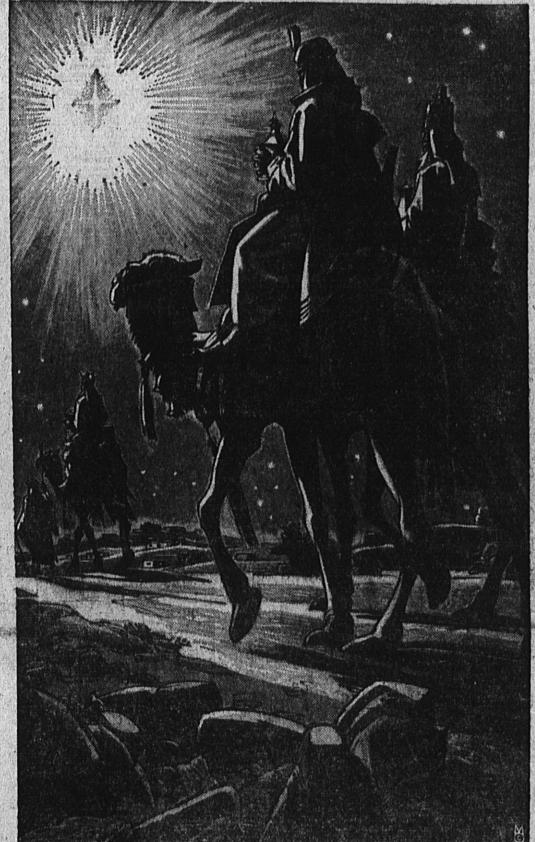
All who have seen the child, named Jesus Christ, say he is extraordinarily different in appearance from any other newborn baby.

Joseph and Mary came here yesterday from far-away Nazareth to pay their taxes, reports say. Finding all lodging places filled, Joseph finally persuaded the innkeeper to let him and his wife stay in the stable.

The divine birth took place shortly after their arrival. Joseph revealed details of occurrence leading up to the miraculous event to visitors at the stable.

While he and Mary were betrothed, he said, the angel Gabriel appeared to the bride-to-be one night and told her that she had been selected by God to give birth to the Holy Child.

Mary was so startled by the event that she immediately left home without saying anything either to Joseph or her parents. She stayed several months with a cousin in another town,



KINGS FOLLOW STAR . . . Using an unusually bright star as a guide, three "Wise Men" from the East neared Bethlehem today in their search for the newborn Saviour, born of the Virgin Mary in an inn stable. They said they followed the star, which had been pointed out to them in vision and prophecy, from Assyria and Babylonia.

then returned to Nazareth to tell Joseph she was going to have a baby.

The night Mary broke the news to Joseph, he had a dream. In it, the angel of the Lord came to him and told him to be not afraid to take Mary as his wife. The child, the angel said, had been conceived by the Holy Spirit to save mankind from sin and bring peace to the earth. He would be called Jesus.

The marriage ceremony accordingly took place, and Joseph and Mary's life together was a perfect companionship, the yearning of soul for soul, Joseph said.

The time for the event was

drawing near when the order came from the Roman emperor, Caesar Augustus, that all inhabitants must gather in Bethlehem to be counted for taxation. Joseph and Mary were afraid not to obey, and thus it happened that their journey here and the Holy Birth coincided.

The inn courtyard has been filled with crowds ever since for news of the great event spread quickly throughout the city.

Many gathered on the streets to discuss the reports. Some said they had seen an unusually bright star that appeared to move across the sky and come to rest over the stable, where the child Jesus was resting in a manger.

However, shepherds in nearby fields were first to learn of the birth, best-informed sources say. The shepherds were quoted as saying that an angel appeared in the heavens and told them the great news.

'Wise Men' Come From East With Gifts For Jesus

BETHLEHEM, Dec. 25 (TH) Riding into this city today on camels, three kings brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh for the babe born in a stable to the Virgin Mary, wife of a Nazarene carpenter, Joseph.

Called Wise Men by local residents who talked to them, the three are Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, who traveled from Assyria and Babylonia, following a star which had been pointed out to them in visions and prophecy.

Enroute the trio stopped at Herod's palace in Jerusalem to have an audience with the King of Judea.

Herod appeared agitated over the child's birth, they reported. He gave them instructions to seek out the child, Jesus, and report back to him.

The three strangers are thought to be in danger of King Herod's wrath because they failed to bring presents for him but presented gifts instead to the new son born to Mary.

Unprecedented, the act is said in official circles to be a cause for a break in trade relations between Judea and the eastern lands.

Alarmed about the attitude of King Herod, the three Wise Men reportedly advised Joseph to take his wife and the child home by a secret route. They also intimated that they themselves intended to leave under cover of darkness to return to their countries by a "circuitous" route without reporting back to Herod's palace.

During their conference with Herod, the trio reported that the King of Judea called on his court astrologer, Marto, for an explanation of the star which the Wise Men, have been following.

Hope for Peace Seen In Christ's Arrival

by PAUL CORPUS
Special Staff Writer

BETHLEHEM, Dec. 25.—(TH)—Shouts of "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men" were heard in this crowded city this morning as thousands of men, women and children filled the streets all talking of the immaculate conception and birth of a child to Virgin Mary.

I personally witnessed a huge crowd of angels hovered over a stable—birthplace of Him who already is being acclaimed

the "Prince of Peace."

I was observing the shepherds tending their flocks when suddenly a great light appeared in the sky. We trembled in fear but there appeared in the center of the brightness an angel which told us to fear not.

We stood in stunned silence as the angel spoke.

"I bring to the world great news. Today a child, now wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger was born to Mary—the Virgin Mother. He is Christ the Lord."

Then the sky seemed to split wide open showing a great crowd of angels—all singing:

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men."

The shepherds dropped their staves and ran toward the city. I ran with them. We ran in search of the birthplace of The Savior.

We knew not where to go until we saw in the heavens a bright star. It was by far brighter than all other stars in

the heavens. A great shaft of silver light pointed toward earth.

We followed its beam and it led us to a stable behind an inn.

We entered the stable.

The Babe's father was kneeling over the new born Son.

Mary, the Child's mother, lay asleep in one corner of the stable.

The Child lay in a cradle of straw.

I spoke to the Child's father, Joseph.

"We came from Nazareth," he told me. "My wife, a virgin, told me she had been visited by the Holy Spirit and had been told she was to give birth to the Son of God."

I asked how was it that the birth should take place in this stable.

"We came to Bethlehem to pay our taxes. However, the inn was crowded and we came to the stable to get out of the night air."

I walked toward the child and peered into His face. It

was smooth and white. He wore an expression of such great innocence and affection that one of the shepherds said:

"It is plain to see that this child has come into the world to give everything and to take nothing."

Story of Birth Of Jesus Christ In News Style

Had the birth of Christ 1982 years ago occurred in a civilization as highly developed as today's it might well have been reported in the press as per the accompanying news stories.

We, the editors of the Torrance Herald, hope that our readers will accept this unusual treatment of the "news" of this week in the spirit in which it was prepared and presented.

It is merely the story of the start of Christmas told in the jargon of modern day journalism.

REPORTS ENRAGE HEROD

Rumors coming from the palace today said Herod, King of Judea, fears the boy born of a virgin in Bethlehem may one day head a revolt against his rule. Agents are seeking the facts of the birth of the child, heralded as "King of All."



BEING GIFTS . . . Cleverly eluding Herod's spies who followed them when they left the palace, the Wise Men entered the inn stable here and knelt before Mary's Babe with arms bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and eyes full of worshipful glory.